

Appln. No. 10/646,162
Amendment dated October 31, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed September 7, 2006

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1. through 16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) A computer system having an alternate activity indicator comprising:

an activity indicator configured to provide illumination and being visible from a front panel of the computer system, the activity indicator consisting of a single color LED;

an activity detection circuit coupled to the indicator, the activity detection circuit being configured to generate an activity signal indicative of the presence of a second periodic operating condition associated with a component of the computer system, and to communicate the activity signal to the indicator;

wherein the indicator has a continuously illuminated condition in response to the presence of a first continuous operating condition;

wherein the continuously illuminated condition of the indicator is interrupted in response to reception by the indicator of the activity signal, the indicator being extinguished when the activity signal is received by the indicator to thereby produce an intermittently illuminated condition indicative of a second periodic operating condition such that the indicator is extinguished in response to occurrence of the second periodic operating condition.

wherein the first continuous operating condition consists of a power-on operating condition of the computer system, and the second periodic operating condition comprises input and output activity of a hard disk drive.

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18. (New) The computer system of claim 17 wherein the activity indicator is the only visible indication of the first continuous operating condition and the indicator is the only visible indicator of the second periodic operating condition.